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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

He application of:

By: Yoshihiko HIBINO

Serial Number: 09/673,567

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: October 18, 2000

Examiner: Pamela R. Schwartz

For:

INK JET RECORDING PAPER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 15, 2003

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AA and AF through AH were cited in the European Search Report dated May 22, 2003. A copy of the Office Action is also attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits following the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the above-identified patent application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Serial Number: 09/673,567

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

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Dwh/nk

Enclosure: PTO 1449; Search Report, 4 references

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